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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. Jerry C. White, Pastor, Riverside Baptist Church, Greer, South Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, our Nation has experienced many victories because of people like those here today. Often success did not come with rushing speed but by persistence and faithfulness. We are in Your hands as were our forefathers of old. Enlighten the minds of Your servants with wisdom, guide their counsel, and prosper their work that what they do shall result in good. Give calmness in the face of storms, encouragement in the face of frustration, and humility in the face of their success. May You grant them wisdom and virtue to perform their part with the fervor of a patriot and the art of a statesman in thought, in word, and in deed. Direct their paths that they may lead with boldness and assurance knowing that our cause is far greater than any one of us. I pray this prayer in the name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Washington (Miss MCMORRIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miss MCMORRIS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. JERRY C. WHITE

(Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome to the House Dr. Jerry White, the president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention and our guest chaplain this morning. Jerry has been preaching since the age of 13, pastoring for 33 years, 24 of those years in South Carolina, the last 7 at Riverside Baptist Church in Greer, South Carolina. His wife Janet and his father are here with us today. They have two sons, and, maybe most significantly, a brand new baby granddaughter.

Jerry's favorite hymn is Amazing Grace. His life verse is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Truly the two work together because one of the stanzas of Amazing Grace is, "Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved."

That is what enables people like Jerry to pastor as they do, realizing that it is grace that causes them to be able to do all things through Christ who strengthens them. We thank him for offering the prayer this morning, and we welcome him to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair desires to make an announcement.

After consultation among the Speaker, the majority and minority leaders, the Chair announces that during the joint meeting to hear an address by His Excellency Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his right and left will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House.

Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the Chair feels the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly adhered to.

Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor, and the cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seat by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of Monday, July 11, 2005, the House stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 8 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

During the recess, beginning at about 9:48 a.m., the following proceedings were had:

□ 0948

JOINT MEETING OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY MANMOHAN SINGH, PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mrs. Kerri Hanley, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort His Excellency Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, into the Chamber:

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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The gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY);

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT);

The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG);

The gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE);

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN);

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS);

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI);

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ);

The gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS);

The gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA);

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE); and

The gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort His Excellency Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL);

The Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS);

The Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ);

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW); and

The Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Jesse Bibiano Marehalau, Ambassador of the Federated States of Micronesia.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The Members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 10 o'clock and 3 minutes a.m., the Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, His Excellency Manmohan Singh.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of India, escorted by the committee of

Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, it is my great privilege and I deem it a high honor and a personal pleasure to present to you His Excellency Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY MANMOHAN SINGH, PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

Prime Minister SINGH. Mr. Speaker, sir; Mr. Vice President; distinguished Members of the U.S. Congress; ladies and gentlemen, I deem it a great privilege to be invited to address this joint session of the U.S. Congress. I thank you from the core of my heart for this invitation.

I bring you the greetings and good wishes of our Parliament members and, indeed, of the entire Indian people.

India and the United States have much in common that is very important to both our countries. You are the world's oldest democracy; we are its largest. Our shared commitment to democratic values and processes has been a bond that has helped us transcend our differences, if any. We admire the creativity, the spirit of adventure and enterprise of the American people, the excellence of your institutions of learning, the openness of your economy, and of your ready embrace of diversity. These have attracted the brightest young minds from India, creating a bridge of understanding that transcends both distance and differences between us.

In addition to the values we share as democracies, there is also a convergence in our perceptions of a rapidly transforming global environment, bringing us much closer together now than at any time in the past. Globalization, ladies and gentlemen, has made the world so interdependent that none of us can ignore what happens elsewhere in any part of the world. Peace and prosperity are more indivisible than ever before in human history.

As democracies, we must work together to create a world in which democracies can flourish. This is particularly important because we are today faced with new threats such as global terrorism to which democracies are particularly vulnerable.

Indian democracy has been fashioned around India's civilizational ethos which celebrates diversity. Our society today is the culmination of centuries of assimilation of diverse peoples and ethnic groups. All the major religions of the world are represented in India. We have a tremendous diversity of languages, customs, and traditions. The Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, called for universal adult franchise as early as 1931, long before India be-

came independent. Our political leadership remained true to this commitment and the Constitution we adopted after independence enshrined democracy based on free elections and the associated principles of tolerance of dissent, freedom for political activity, protection of human rights, and commitment to the rule of law.

Our first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, acknowledged our debt to America on this score. He said that you could hear in our Constitution the echo of the great voices of the Founding Fathers of your own Republic.

Ladies and gentlemen, the real test of a democracy is not in what is said in the Constitution, but in how it functions on the ground. All Indians can be proud of what we have achieved in this area, and I suggest that our experience in this regard is also relevant beyond our own boundaries. Free and fair elections are the foundations of a democracy. Over the past six decades, governments in India, at both the national and state level, have regularly sought the mandate of the people through elections.

Our elections are conducted under the supervision of a statutory independent election commission, which has earned respect for its fairness and transparency, both at home and abroad. The independent judiciary has been a zealous defender of our Constitution and a credible guarantor of the rule of law. The press is a key institution in any democracy, and our media has a well-earned reputation for being both free and fearless. Our minority, and we have many, participates actively in all walks of our national life, political, commercial, and cultural. Civil society organizations are thriving and are vigilant in protecting fundamental human rights. They are also watchful of threats to our environment. Our army has remained a professional force, subject throughout to civilian control.

Recently, the Constitution was amended to ensure constitutionally mandated elections to village and municipal councils. This process has produced no less than 3 million elected representatives in our country, with 1 million positions reserved for women. This has brought democracy closer to the people and also empowered our women and promoted gender balance.

Ladies and gentlemen, our commitment to democratic values and practices means that there are many concerns and perceptions that we share with the people of this great country. The most important concern is the threat of global terrorism. Democracy can only thrive in open and free societies. But open societies like ours are today threatened more than ever before by the rise of global terrorism. The very openness of our societies makes us more vulnerable, and yet we must deal effectively with the threat without losing the openness we so value and cherish. India and the United States have both suffered grievously